

Appl. No. 09/818,074
Amdt. dated April 21, 2005
Reply to final Office action of March 16, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS


Applicants received the final Office action dated March 16, 2005, in which the Examiner: 1) allowed claims 1-3, 5-18, 20 and 22-48; 2) rejected claims 49 and 50 as being unpatentable over Boesch (U.S. Pat. No. 6,125,185) in view of Hori et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,578,057); and 3) objected to claims 51-53 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but which would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. With this response, Applicants amend claims 49-51 and claim 53, and cancel claim 52. Based on the amendments and arguments contained herein, Applicants believe all claims to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants amend independent claim 49 to include the limitations from claim 52 (which the Examiner concluded was allowable) and accordingly cancel claim 52. Applicants further amend dependent claim 50 to maintain consistency with the amended language of claim 49, and claim 53 to properly refer to independent claim 49, and amend claim 51 to correct a typographical error. At least for the same reasons that the Examiner concluded that claim 52 was patentable, the Examiner should now conclude that independent claim 49 as amended, as well as dependent claims 50, 51 and 53, are patentable.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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